

# **Department of Juvenile Justice Services**

## **Director's Office**

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**Fritz Reese, Director**  
John M. Martin, Assistant Director

## **Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board**

### **May 3, 2012**

### **Meeting Minutes**

Desert Pines Golf Club  
3415 East Bonanza  
Las Vegas, NV 89101

#### **Members Present:**

Commissioner Susan Brager  
Commissioner Mary Beth Scow  
Judge William Voy  
Judge Frank Sullivan

#### **Clark County Management**

Jeff Wells, Assistant County Manager

#### **Department of Family Services (DFS)**

Lisa Ruiz-Lee, Acting Director  
Dan Hyde, Citizen's Advisory Committee Chairman  
Sheila Parks, Citizen's Advisory Committee  
Bree Nullin, Citizen's Advisory Committee  
Yvette Williams, Citizen's Advisory Committee

#### **Department of Juvenile Justice Services**

Fritz Reese, Director  
John Martin, Assistant Director  
Thomas Maroney, Citizen's Advisory Committee

#### **Clark County Civil District Attorney's Office**

Mark Wood, Deputy District Attorney

#### **GUESTS:**

Lisa Kelso, Sr. Child & Family Intervention Specialist – Management Academy  
Dereatha Watkins, Social Work Supervisor - Management Academy

#### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Judge William Voy, who announced there was a quorum.

**Policy & Fiscal Affairs Board Meeting**  
**May 3, 2012**

**II. Review and Approve Minutes from November 10, 2011 meeting – Action Item.**

The minutes were approved.

**III. Approve the Agenda – Action Item.**

The Agenda was approved.

**IV. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**V. Receive the Director's Report on the Activities of the Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) and Director Staff Accordingly. Action Item**

Fritz Reese, Director of Juvenile Justice Services announced Mr. Brett Allen, Chief of Nevada Youth Parole has been hired as the new Probation Manager. He will start on June 4, 2012. Mr. Reese introduced Lisa Kelso, Sr. Child & Family Intervention Specialist and Dereatha Watkins, Social Work Supervisor as guests at the meeting. They are attending the Clark County 2012 Management Academy. Mr. Reese distributed copies of the DJJS Director's Report. The Position Review Board has approved the filling of two Probation Supervisor positions. Mr. Jack Martin, Assistant Director is reviewing all the DJJS Policies and Procedures. The Report shows the number of policies currently under review.

The Department's current budget was discussed. Mr. Scott Mayne, LSM – Government Financial Management, Inc., has been hired by Juvenile Justice, with the approval of the Board of County Commissioners to continue to work and train the necessary staff in the department to develop and implement the policies and procedures that meet State and Federal requirements to bill for Medicaid funds for allowable mental health services to eligible children. The monies reimbursed from Federal Medicaid funds for 2011 were approximately \$1.2M. At the present time, thirteen (13) DJJS staff are being financed out of these funds. Mr. Jeff Wells, Assistant County Manager, noted that both DJJS and the Department of Family Services (DFS) are both billing Medicaid for Targeted Case Management (TCM) billable hours.

Judge Voy discussed the possibility of hiring a Business Systems Analyst to bring together the statistical analysis and grant writing reports that are necessary to be able to capture state and federal dollars. Mr. Wells stated that it is almost the new fiscal year, so this request will be brought to County Finance.

The Nevada Youth Training Center (NYTC) in Elko Nevada is under scrutiny. The Court is partnering with the State to fund a review of the Training Center's current condition and procedures. Mr. Reese discussed the Supreme Court's recent review of the Juvenile Justice System and the relocation of youth, certified as adults, to Camps and possibly Summit View, instead of placing them in NYTC. Commissioner Brager discussed the positive aspects of keeping youth in Las Vegas and also being able to keep the State monies in Las Vegas to assist these youth.

Truancy is the leading cause of re-entry of youth into the juvenile justice system.

**Policy & Fiscal Affairs Board Meeting  
May 3, 2012**

Commissioner Brager suggested a meeting be arranged with the Clark County School

Superintendent to discuss the possibility of placing this issue back with the School District instead of Juvenile Justice Services and the Courts. Judge Frank Sullivan runs the Truancy Diversion Court and states that there is no ‘buy-in’ from the school district on the issue of Truancy. Judge Voy has a meeting scheduled with the Superintendent of the School District for May 18, 2012.

**VI. Report regarding – Shields, Badges, Uniforms and Morale**

Jack Martin, Assistant Director, discussed the agreement with the Juvenile Justice Probation Officers Union regarding the new five (5) point shield and credential card. Mr. Martin also discussed the possibility of having sworn officers wear a uniform, as a way to increase professionalism and build morale. Commissioner Brager encouraged Mr. Martin to submit the costs to the budget committee for approval.

**VII. Receive the DJJS Citizen’s Advisory Committee Report.**

Mr. Maroney, Citizen’s Advisory Committee member reported on the recent vacancies on the Committee. The committee is focusing on their three goals:

1. Strategic Plan – Working on an updated plan.
2. Membership - Have only seven (7) out of a possible eleven (11) member slots filled. The Committee is trying to gain a cross-section of the County.
3. Formal Reporting Process

One Goal is to have a Town Hall meeting to speak to the citizens and the school district regarding truancy. The recent meeting between DJJS and Clark County School District (CCSD) at the Opportunity Schools highlighted the lack of Mental Health Services. Commissioner Brager noted that the school district is one of the biggest in the nation and the second largest referral to juvenile booking.

**VIII. Receive the Director’s Report on the Activities of the Department of Family Services (DFS) and Direct Staff Accordingly.**

Ms. Lisa Ruiz-Lee, Director of the Department of Family Services (DFS) distributed the DFS Director’s Report which noted that DFS received approval to fill vacant front-line case management positions. The Board of County Commissioners approved the purchase of mobile technology (laptops with wireless network access) for all field staff. The use of this technology will aid in case management and ensure that staff are able to fully utilize downtime that may be experienced in the field.

The Major issues the Department is working on:

1. Participation in the Rewrite of NRS 432B and the Legislative Interim Committee on Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice;
2. Implementation of Revised Safety Practice Model;
3. Development of Therapeutic Foster Care Pilot Program

**Policy & Fiscal Affairs Board Meeting**  
**May 3, 2012**

**IX: Receive the DFS Citizen's Advisory Committee Report and approve the Committee's Initiatives and Actions.**

Mr. Dan Hyde, Chairman of the DFS – CAC, submitted their 2012 Strategic Plan. The committee has narrowed the most pressing child welfare issues facing our community's children and families to:

1. Childhood Education
2. Family Preservation
3. Foster/Adoptive systems, and
4. Mental Health Services

The committee is seeking the approval of these plans and requesting permission to share this work with members of the Legislative Committee on Child Welfare and Juvenile justice on Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Commissioner Brager moved that the report be received with a Resolution on the Commission level to approve it. Between May and November the Citizen's Advisory Committee will put together their platform. Judge Frank Sullivan and Judge William Voy also approved the plan for the Citizen's Advisory Board to address the Legislative session and approved in principal the Action Plan to be submitted to the Board.

Commissioner Brager suggested that the Policy & Fiscal Affairs Board meeting quarterly instead of bi-annually in order to have more time to address each Department. Mr. Wells stated that it would be appropriate to call a separate meeting and place this idea on the Agenda for approval. Ms. Yvette Williams, CAC, discussed having the CAC's Platform finalized in November so members can seek support of the legislatures prior to the 2013 session.

**X. Receive a Report from Judge Voy.**

No additional report at this time.

**XI: Public Comments**

No Public Comments at this time.

**XII. Schedule next meeting. *Action Item***

The next meeting will be held on August 23, 2012 at the Desert Pines Golf Course - Private Room starting at 12:30 PM.

**XIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.